1 2 3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 4 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 5 6 TAMARAH R. SEIELSTAD, individually No. CV 09-1797 MMC 7 and on behalf of all others similarly situated, **|PROPOSED|** ORDER PRELIMINARILY 8 APPROVING CLASS AND COLLECTIVE Plaintiff, **ACTION SETTLEMENT,** 9 **CONDITIONALLY CERTIFYING** SETTLEMENT CLASS, APPROVING v. 10 FORM OF NOTICE, AND SCHEDULING AEGIS SENIOR COMMUNITIES, LLC, a A FAIRNESS HEARING 11 Washington Limited Liability Company Judge: Hon. Maxine M. Chesney 12 7, 19th Floor Defendant. Room: 13 **Action Filed: April 24, 2009** 14 15 KENNYON MORRIS and KAREN No. CV 10-2060 MMC 16 JIRON, individually and on behalf of all other similarly situated, **PROPOSED** ORDER PRELIMINARILY 17 APPROVING CLASS AND COLLECTIVE **Plaintiffs ACTION SETTLEMENT,** 18 CONDITIONALLY CERTIFYING SETTLEMENT CLASS, APPROVING v. 19 FORM OF NOTICE, AND SCHEDULING AEGIS SENIOR COMMUNITIES, LLC, a A FAIRNESS HEARING 20 Washington Limited Liability Company, Hon. Maxine M. Chesney Judge: 21 Defendant. Room: 7, 19th Floor 22 **Action Filed:** May 14, 2010 23 24 On March 4, 2011, the Class Representatives, on behalf of themselves and the classes they 25 represent, applied to the Court for Preliminary Approval of the Joint Stipulation and Settlement 26 Agreement and Release of Claims ("Settlement Agreement") in this Action, for preliminary 27 certification of the classes defined in the Settlement Agreement, for approval of the form of 28

Notice, and for the scheduling of a hearing on these and other matters ("Fairness Hearing").

The Court, having read and considered the proposed Settlement Agreement, the proposed Notice to Class of Proposed Settlement of Collective and Class Action and proposed methods of notification, and having reviewed the moving papers, and good cause appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, finds as follows:

- 1. The proposed Settlement Agreement falls within the range of possible final approval as fair, adequate, and reasonable to the class and merits submission to the class for consideration pursuant to Rule 23(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. The proposed form of mailed Notice is adequate and constitutes the best notice practicable of the Fairness Hearing, the proposed settlement, the attorneys' fees and expenses, and other matters set forth in the Notice to Class of Proposed Settlement of Collective and Class Action, and constitutes valid, due and sufficient notice to all persons in the proposed Class, and comply fully with the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Constitution of the United States, and any other applicable law; and based upon the foregoing.

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that

- 3. For the purpose of implementing and enforcing the proposed Settlement Agreement, pursuant to Rules 23(b)(3) and (e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the following Classes are conditionally certified:
- (a) Settlement **Class A** will be comprised of all current and former non-exempt, hourly paid California employees of Defendant performing care-manager duties in the position of lead care manager, care manger, medical care manager, and medical technician from April 24, 2005, to and including the date on which the Court gives preliminary approval of the Settlement.
- (b) Settlement **Class B** will be comprised of all former California employees of Defendant who were terminated from Defendant's employment between the time period April 24, 2005, to and including the date on which the Court gives preliminary approval of the Settlement.

- 4. The third claims for relief in the *Morris* and *Seielstad* Complaints are dismissed against Defendant, with respect to any claims from employees of Defendant working in the State of Nevada and the State of Washington.

  to Class of Proposed Settlement of Collective and
- 5. The proposed form of Notice of Class and Collective Action Settlement in the Class Action in the form attached hereto form attached to the Zelenski Declaration of April 13, 2011, is approved for mailing to the Class Members.

## Consent to Join/Opt-In/Claim Form

- 6. The proposed form of Claim Form in the form attached to the Zelenski Declaration of April 13, 2011, is approved for mailing to the Class Members.
- 7. The law firm of Harris and Ruble and the North Bay Law Offices of David Harris are conditionally certified as Class Counsel.
- 8. Named Plaintiffs Tamarah Seielstad, Kennyon Morris and Karen Jiron are conditionally certified as Representative Plaintiffs.
- 9. A Fairness Hearing shall be held before this Court at 9 a.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011, at the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, 19th Floor, Courtroom 7, San Francisco, California 94102. At the Fairness Hearing, the Court will determine: (a) whether the proposed Settlement Agreement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable and adequate to the Class; (b) whether a Final Order and Judgment should be entered thereon; (c) whether Class Counsel's attorneys' fees and costs should be approved; and (d) whether the proposed Plan of Allocation should be approved.
- 10. No later than on May 31, 2011, Class Counsel shall file an application for an award of attorneys' fees and incentive payments for Plaintiffs, as well as for reimbursement of costs (the "Application"). Contemporaneously with its filing, but in no event later than May 31, 2011, the Application shall be posted on a web site established by the Claims Administrator, Gilardi & Co., LLC.
- 11. By May 31, 2011, Class Counsel shall cause the Claims Administrator to mail the Notice to Class of Proposed Settlement of Collective and Class Action and the Claim Form to those persons in the Settlement Class who can be identified through reasonable effort, by First

Class Mail and shall arrange to have the Administrator cause to be filed with the Clerk of this Court a declaration that the mailing has been made in accordance with this Order.

12. No later than on September 16, 2011, Class Counsel shall file a Motion for Final Approval, which Motion shall address any and all objections.

Any person who objects to the Settlement of the Class Action may appear and be heard at the Fairness Hearing. Any such person must file a written notice of intention to object, file copies of any evidence, briefs or other papers in support of the objection with the Clerk of the Court and serve such notice of their intention to object and copies of all supporting papers within the manner and time set forth in the Class Notice.

- 13. Only persons who have filed and served valid and timely notices of objection shall be entitled to be heard at the Fairness Hearing. An objector may appear personally or by counsel.
- 14. Any Class Member who wishes to participate in the Settlement Fund must sign and return a valid and timely Claim Form, in accordance with the instructions contained therein. Any Class Member who does not submit a valid and timely Claim Form shall not be entitled to participate in the Settlement Fund. Any Class Member, whether or not the Member submits a Claim Form, and who does not opt out, shall be barred and forever enjoined from asserting any of the Released Claims, as described in Paragraph 17 of the Settlement Agreement, against Defendant, shall conclusively be deemed to have released any and all such Released Claims as against Defendant, save and except for claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act, and shall be subject to and bound by the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and Final Judgment, if the Court ultimately approves the Settlement Agreement.
- 15. The Court may, for good cause, extend any of the deadlines set forth in this Order or adjourn or continue the Fairness Hearing without further notice to the Class.
- 16. Pending final determination of whether the settlement set forth in the proposed Settlement Agreement is to be approved, the Class, either directly, representatively derivatively, or in any other capacity, shall not commence or prosecute any action or proceeding in any court or tribunal asserting any of the Released Claims against Defendant or the Releasees.

## 17. If for any reason the proposed Settlement Agreement is terminated by its terms, or Final Approval does not occur, this Order conditionally certifying the Classes shall automatically be vacated. IT IS SO ORDERED: DATED: April 15 , 2011

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